

**UPPER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP
SEWER & WATER COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 23, 2011**

Committee Members in attendance were Chairman John Bealer, Ed O'Brien, Michael HENZES and Jeffrey Nason. Vice Chairman David Crock was absent. Also in attendance were Robert Smale, Tom Bedord, Frank Quinter, Public Works Director, Charles Garner, Township Solicitor, Chris Hannum, LTL Engineer, and Jack Layne, Township Manager.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Bealer called the meeting to order at 5:05 P.M.

II. Approval of Minutes [March 28, 2011]

Mr. Nason moved that the March 28, 2011 meeting minutes be approved as submitted. Mr. HENZES seconded this motion. The motion was approved.

III. Public Comment

Mr. Smale stated that there have been a number of problems, i.e., drainage, minimum topsoil, etc., in the area where he lives, 2249 Bruce Drive, since he had moved to that location and asked when might something be done by the Township to rectify this situation. Chairman Bealer responded that this area was specified as part of the 537 Plan and that this area was on the list to be improved. Mr. Hannum stated that engineering preparations for providing needed work in this area would begin in seven years or less. Chairman Bealer added that the timeframe for providing public sewer and other desired improvements was impacted by available funding for this purpose. Mr. Hannum further stated that Ming Drive and Moyer Road needed to be done prior to Bruce Drive and that the 537 Plan, specifying this process, had been approved by the Township's Board of Commissioners. Mr. Hannum also stated that 60% of every \$1.00 of sewer rental cost is utilized for paying the sewer debt owed by the Township.

IV. Updates

No Updates were provided.

V. Old Business

A. Standard Specifications

Mr. Garner reported that the proposed Standard Sewer Specifications and Details had been received by the Board of Commissioners but that they had not been approved as of yet.

B. Act 537 On-Lot-Management Program

C. Small Flow Ordinance

D. New PADEP Requirements for Chapter 94

E. Ordinance Revisions

Mr. Hannum address items B. through E. under Old Business. Mr. Hannum provided an overview of the Act 537 Plan Revision Summary that he had

distributed to the Committee. The areas he discussed were the following: How the needs are defined, public health needs areas, high priority needs, secondary priority needs, approved land developments, malfunctioning septic systems in remote areas, technical and non-technical alternatives, on-lot management program estimated implementation costs and funding possibilities and small flow sewage treatment facilities. He stated that Horseshoe and Bruce Drive could be provided public sewer simultaneously if adequate funding was available. The Committee discussed and recommended that the Township consider enacting a small flow sewage ordinance. Mr. O'Brien subsequently made a motion that the Township review and approve a small flow sewage ordinance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henzes. The motion was approved. The Committee expressed concern that the proposed on-lot management program could be very costly for Township residents. They emphasized that a resident could be asked to pay \$20,000 to replace a failing septic systems and then two to three years later could be asked to pay a similar amount of money or more to connect to public sewer. Following additional discussion by Mr. Hannum and the Committee on these items, Mr. O'Brien moved that there was no present need for the proposed on-lot management program. Mr. Nason seconded the motion. The motion was approved. It was noted that the Montgomery County Public Health Department was responsible for identifying failing sewer systems.

VI. New Business

A. Flow Reports

Mr. Hannum stated that he would be meeting with Mr. Quinter next week to review the status of the existing meters and that they were moving towards replacing six meters. Mr. O'Brien commented that the Flow Reports needed further verification due to apparent irregularities, e.g., high flow totals shown during dry periods, which were too often provided in these reports.

B. Storm Water Regulations

There was a consensus that the Committee would begin to review and discuss proposed Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection proposed storm water municipal regulations.

C. July Committee meeting

There was a consensus that the scheduled Committee for July 25, 2011 be cancelled.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. O'Brien moved that the meeting be adjourned at 6:12 P.M. Mr. Nason seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Jack Layne, Township Manager

**The next Sewer & Water Committee meeting is scheduled for 5:00 P.M.
Monday, September 26, 2011**